



## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Region 1 – New England  
5 Post Office Square – Suite 100  
Boston, MA 02109-3912

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**CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

**SEP 14 2016**

Kelly Gelske  
TravelCenters of America  
24601 Center Ridge Road, Suite 200  
West Lake, OH 44145-5634

Re: EPA Request for Information Pursuant to Section 308 of the Clean Water Act  
EPA Docket No. CWA-308-R01-FY16-74

Dear Ms. Gelske:

On June 23, 2016, the Environmental Protection Agency (the "EPA") performed a Compliance Evaluation Inspection of TravelCenters of America's ("TravelCenters") Willington, CT facility. In the closing conference of the inspection, EPA inspectors noted several areas of potential noncompliance. For your records, EPA is providing a summary of these issues as Attachment A of this letter.

Prior to this, on November 8, 2013, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("CT DEEP") issued a Notice of Violation ("NOV," No. WR IN 13 024) to TravelCenters for, among other matters, the discharge of unpermitted substances associated with unapproved chemical treatment of the stormwater catch basins and the 18,000-gallon oil/water separator to receiving waters. In its November 20, 2013, letter in response to the NOV, TravelCenters stated that the addition of hydrated lime and aluminum sulfate had been discontinued at its Connecticut facilities.

On June 11, 2014, EPA sent a Request for Information to TravelCenters inquiring about, among other matters, the use of chemicals to treat waters removed from the stormwater catch basins and the 18,000-gallon oil/water separator at the Willington facility. In its response, TravelCenters included a response from its contractor (Northstar Environmental Group, Inc.) stating that hydrated lime typically had been used to aid in flocculating and removal of suspended solids at the Willington facility.

Section 301(a) of the Federal Clean Water Act (the "Act"), 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a), makes unlawful the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States except, among other things, in compliance with the terms and conditions of a NPDES permit issued pursuant to Section 402 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342. According to a spreadsheet obtained from TravelCenters' website, TravelCenters operates facilities in Greenland, New Hampshire and West Greenwich, Rhode

Island. Treatment of stormwater with the addition of hydrated lime, aluminum sulfate, or any other chemicals at these facilities without authorization of a NPDES permit may constitute an unpermitted discharges of pollutants.

Section 308(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1318(a), authorizes EPA to require the owner or operator of a point source to provide information needed to determine whether there has been a violation of the Act.

TravelCenters is hereby required, pursuant to Section 308(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1318(a), to respond to this Request for Information (the "Request") within **30 calendar days of receipt of this letter**, unless otherwise specified herein. Please read the instructions in Attachment B carefully before preparing your response and answer each question in Attachment C as clearly and completely as possible.

Your response to this Request must also be accompanied by a certificate that is signed and dated by the person who is authorized to respond to the Request. A Statement of Certification, Attachment D, is attached to this letter.

Information submitted pursuant to this Request shall be in writing and **shall be provided in hardcopy and in an electronic format** to EPA at the following addresses:

John Melcher  
Mail Code: OES04-1  
US EPA, Region 1  
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100  
Boston, MA 02109-3912  
melcher.john@epa.gov

Information submitted pursuant to this Request relevant to the Rhode Island facility shall be in writing and **shall be provided in an electronic format** to Joseph Haberek at the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management ("RIDEM") at joseph.haberek@dem.ri.gov. Information submitted pursuant to this Request relevant to the New Hampshire facility shall be in writing and **shall be provided in an electronic format** to Tracy Wood at the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services ("NHDES") at tracy.wood@des.nh.gov.

Compliance with this Request is mandatory. Failure to respond fully and truthfully, or to adequately justify any failure to respond within the time frame specified above, also constitutes a violation of the Act subject to enforcement action, including the assessment of penalties. In addition, providing false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations may subject you to criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

You may, if you desire, assert a business confidentiality claim covering part or all of the information requested in the manner described by 40 C.F.R. § 2.203(b). All information claimed to be confidential should be contained on separate sheet(s) and should be clearly identified as "trade secret" or "proprietary" or "company confidential." These separate marked sheets should be submitted to EPA by hard copy or compact disc, and not by email. Information covered by such a claim will be disclosed by EPA only to the extent, and by means of the procedures, set

forth in 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If no such claim accompanies the information when it is received by EPA, the information may be made available to the public without further notice to you.

If you have questions regarding this Request, please contact John Melcher, Enforcement Officer of my staff at (617) 918-1663 or have your attorney contact Jeffrey Kopf, Senior Enforcement Counsel at (617) 918-1796.

Sincerely,



James Chow, Manager  
Technical Enforcement Office  
Office of Environmental Stewardship

Electronic cc: John Melcher, US EPA  
Jeffrey Kopf, US EPA  
Joy Hilton, US EPA  
Kim Hudak, CT DEEP  
Karen Allen, CT DEEP  
Joseph Haberek, RIDEM  
Tracy Wood, NHDES

Enclosures:

- Attachment A – Potential Noncompliance Identified in EPA's June 23, 2016, Inspection of TravelCenters of America's Willington, CT Facility
- Attachment B – Instructions
- Attachment C – Request
- Attachment D – Statement of Certification



## **Attachment A**

### **Potential Noncompliance Identified in EPA's June 23, 2016, Inspection of TravelCenters of America's Willington, CT Facility**

1. The detention basin outfall sampling location currently used may not be representative of flow from the basin. The sampling location is not consistent with the location shown in the Integrated Contingency Plan ("ICP").
2. Sampling location C is not shown in the ICP.
3. Monitoring reports submitted by the Facility indicate zinc concentrations in excess of the State Water Quality Standards. The Facility should revise its ICP with updated zinc measurements and make recommendations to implement additional best management practices to reduce the concentration of zinc in the stormwater runoff from the site.
4. Staff no longer on the pollution prevention team are identified in the ICP. The Facility should revise its ICP consistent with personnel changes.
5. The 18,000-gallon Oil-Water Separator ("OWS") may be inadequately sized to store the water quality volume from the tributary impervious area. The Facility should consider expanding the OWS or installing additional OWSs.
6. The Facility needs to manage fluorescent light bulbs as hazardous waste.
7. The Facility should consider performing a hazardous waste determination on its waste oil and antifreeze to evaluate the applicability of Connecticut's hazardous waste regulations on these substances.

## **Attachment B**

### **Instructions**

1. Provide a separate narrative response to each and every item and subpart thereof set forth in this Request. Precede each response with the text and the number of the item and the subpart to which the response corresponds.
2. If you cannot respond to any item in full, respond to the extent possible. If your responses are qualified in any manner, explain.
3. Any documents referenced or relied upon by you to respond to the Request must be copied and submitted to EPA with your response. All documents must contain a notation indicating the item and subpart to which they are responding. If the documentation that supports a response to one item duplicates the documentation that supports another item, submit one copy of the documentation and reference the documentation in subsequent responses.
4. If information or documents not known or not available to you as of the date of the submission of the response to this Request should later become known, or available to you, you must supplement your response. Moreover, should you find at any time after the submission of your response that any portion of the submitted information is inaccurate or incomplete, you must notify EPA of this finding as soon as possible and provide a corrected response.

## **Attachment C**

### **Request**

For the TravelCenters facilities located at 108 Ocean Road, Greenland, New Hampshire and at 849 Victory Highway, West Greenwich, Rhode Island, provide the following information:

- a. A site map showing structural Stormwater Control Measures ("SCMs," e.g., oil/water separators, catch basins, detention basins) and stormwater outfalls;
- b. A description of cleaning, maintenance, and treatment procedures performed at each SCM, including, at a minimum, a description of:
  - i. The frequency that these procedures are conducted;
  - ii. How oils and floatable debris are removed;
  - iii. How settled solids are removed;
  - iv. How water is removed;
  - v. How water is treated, including the addition of any chemicals or other treatment aids or agents;
  - vi. The ultimate discharge and / or disposal location of oils and floatables removed from the SCM;
  - vii. The ultimate discharge and / or disposal location of settled solids removed from the SCM; and
  - viii. The ultimate discharge and / or disposal location of waters treated through the addition of any chemicals or other treatment aids or agents.

## **Attachment D**

### **Statement of Certification**

Complete and Include With Your Response

I declare under penalty of perjury that I am authorized to respond on behalf of TravelCenters of America. I certify that the foregoing responses and information submitted were prepared by me, or under my direction or supervision and that I have personal knowledge of all matters set forth in the responses and the accompanying information. I certify that the responses are true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)